

discovering logical information related to the one or more volumes of data that are part of the first volume group on the first computer system and creating a map of the logical information to physical devices on the first computer system; and  
mounting a duplicate of the one or more volumes of data on a second computer system having a second operating system using the map to create a second volume group that is substantially identical to the first volume group.

29. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the first and second operating system are substantially the same and are selected from a group consisting of IBM AIX, Sun Solaris, or HP UX, and the computer-executed steps may be performed substantially independent of which operating system is selected from the group.

30. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein the map is configured as a flat file that is converted into a tree structure and including the step of using the tree structure to verify the accuracy of the information related to the volume group and the other logical information.

31. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the tree structure is converted back into a map that is sent to a second computer system having a second operating system.

32. (New) The method of claim 31, including the step of building a second volume group on the second computing system that is a substantially a copy of the first volume group on the first computing system.

33. (New) The method of claim 32, including the steps of:

establishing one or more mirrored copies of data that are copies of one or more volumes of data that are part of the first volume group and separating the one or more mirrored copies of data from the respective one more volumes of data

34. (New) The method of claim 33, including the step of mounting the separated one or more copies of data on the first or second computer system using the second volume group.

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35. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein the first and second computer system are combined.

36. (New) The method of claim 34, including the step of:

dismounting the separated one or more copies from the second computer system.

37. (New) The method of claim 33, including the step of:

backing up the separated one or more copies of data to a backup medium.

38. (New) The method of claim 37, including the step of:

restoring one or more volumes of data from the backup medium or from the one or more mirrored copies of data that are copies of the one or more volumes of data.

39. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the respective one or more volumes of data that are part of a first volume group on the first computer system are further associated with a first software application.

40. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein a second software application is provided on the second computer system and the separated one or more copies of data on the second computer system are associated with the second software application.

41. (New) The method of claim 40, including the step of:  
backing up the separated one or more copies of data to a backup medium.

42. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein the second software application has an associated database and the step of backing up the separated one or more copies of data to a backup medium includes backing up the associated database.

43. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein there is a set of information associated with the database, the set of management data including tablespaces, archive logs, redo logs, and control files and at least some of the set of information associated with the database is backed up to the backup medium during the backup step.

44. (New) The method of claim 43, including the step of:  
restoring from the separated one or more copies of data the respective one or more volumes of data associated with the separated one or more copies of data from the separated one or more copies of data, and wherein at least some of the set of information associated with the database is used during this step.

45. (New) A computer system for managing data that may be replicated from one or more volumes of data comprising:

a data storage system including a plurality of storage devices;

a first and second computer system in communication with the data storage system, wherein the first computer system has data that may be replicated from one or more volumes of data that are part of a first volume group on the first computer system that has a first operating system; and

A1 computer-executable logic that enables the method steps of:

discovering logical information related to the one or more volumes of data that are part of the first volume group on the first computer system and creating a map of the logical information to physical devices on the first computer system; and

mounting a duplicate of the data on a second computer system having a second operating system using the map to create a second volume group that is substantially identical to the first volume group.

46. (New) The system of claim 45, wherein the first and second operating system are substantially the same and are selected from a group consisting of IBM AIX, Sun Solaris, or HP UX, and the computer-executed steps may be performed substantially independent of which operating system is selected from the group.

47. (New) The system of claim 46, wherein the map is configured as a flat file that is converted into a tree structure and including the step of using the tree structure to verify the accuracy of the information related to the volume group and the other logical information.

48. (New) The system of claim 47, wherein the tree structure is converted back into a map that is sent to a second computer system having a second operating system.

49. (New) The system of claim 48, including the step of building a second volume group on the second computing system that is a substantially a copy of the first volume group on the first computing system.

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50. (New) The system of claim 49, including the steps of:

establishing one or more mirrored copies of data that are copies of one or more volumes of data that are part of a first volume group; and  
separating the one or more mirrored copies of data from the respective one more volumes of data.

51. (New) The system of claim 50, including the step of mounting the separated one or more copies of data on the first or second computer system using the second volume group.

52. (New) The system of claim 51, wherein the first and second computer system are combined.

53. (New) The system of claim 51, including the step of:

dismounting the separated one or more copies from the second computer system.

54. (New) The system of claim 49, including the step of:

backing up the separated one or more copies of data to a backup medium.

55. (New) The system of claim 50, including the step of:

restoring one or more volumes of data from the backup medium or from the one or more mirrored copies of data that are copies of the one or more volumes of data.

56. (New) A program product for use with a data storage system having a plurality of storage devices and which is in communication a first and second computer system, the program product being for management of data and being comprised of:

computer-executable logic contained on a computer-readable medium and which is configured for causing the following computer-executed steps to occur:

establishing one or more mirrored copies of data that are copies of one or more volumes of data that are part of a first volume group on a first computer system having a first operating system;

separating the one or more mirrored copies of data from the respective one more volumes of data;

discovering logical information related to the one or more volumes of data that are part of the volume group on the first computer system and creating a map of the logical information to physical devices on the first computer system; and

mounting a duplicate of the one or more mirrored copies of data on a second computer system having a second operating system using the map to create a second volume group that is substantially identical to the first volume group.

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